



NEWS RELEASE

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2023 STOCKTON ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM BUILDING GRANT PROGRAM Notice of Funding Opportunity Available

STOCKTON, Calif. – The City of Stockton has funding available for organizations that serve as business service providers to entrepreneurs and small business through the Stockton Entrepreneurship Grant. This year, City will grant up to \$508,000 to organizations that serve small businesses in Stockton. The 2023 Entrepreneurship Grant Program is the largest amount of available funding since the program was introduced in 2015.

The grant funding is available for community-based, business service organizations to provide services that expand and grow Stockton’s entrepreneurial ecosystem and create economic opportunities for the business community. Funding focuses on two identified entrepreneurial ecosystem needs: 1) expanding equitable opportunities, and 2) sustainable, post-pandemic growth. Organizations applying for funding must be business service providers that assist entrepreneurs, start-up businesses, or small businesses.

“Small businesses are the backbone of Stockton’s economy,” shared Economic Development Director Carrie Wright. “Through the Entrepreneurship Grant program, we strengthen the quality and availability of the necessary resources that entrepreneurs and small businesses need to be successful, building a stronger, more resilient entrepreneurial ecosystem in the city of Stockton.”

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Examples of priority projects for funding include, but are not limited to:

- One-on-one business consulting and technical assistance
- Financial consultation and access to capital
- Business management services
- Assistance with business innovation
- Coworking and Incubator Scholarships
- Food incubator strategies
- Innovation and Entrepreneur regularly schedule meetups
- Startup Weekends
- Speaker series
- Conferences
- Educational Opportunities
- Other in-person events

Applications will only be accepted through the online Stockton Neighborly portal; the link to the application portal, program guidelines, and requirements are located at www.stocktonca.gov/EDD. Completed applications must be submitted online by October 13, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. For more information about this program, please call the Economic Development Department at 209-937-8539 or email jamie.vilinskas@stocktonca.gov.

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